

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference H1040641WO01	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2005/005634	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 18.03.2005	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 30.03.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int.Cl. G06Q10/00 (2006.01)			
Applicant HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.	
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.	
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a total of <u>5</u> sheets, as follows: <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</div> b. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).	
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</div>	

Date of submission of the demand 26.01.2006	Date of completion of this report 07.06.2006		
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP Japan Patent Office 3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan	Authorized officer Koji Sugawara Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 3562	5L	9460

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/005634

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on:

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
 pages 1 - 25 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
 Nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
 Nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 Nos.* 1, 3 - 6, 8 - 10 received by this Authority on 26.01.2006
 Nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
~~sheets~~/figs 1 - 6 as originally filed/furnished
 sheets/figs * _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets/figs * _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 2, 7
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1, 3-6, 8-10</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	<u>1, 3-6, 8-10</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1, 3-6, 8-10</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations(Rule 70.7)

[Cited document]

D1:WO 01/084446 A1 (GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL CORPORATION) 2001.08.11

[Explanations]

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-10

The subject matters of claims 1, 3-6, 8-10 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of the document 1 cited in the ISR.

D1 discloses an automated assessment system for creating report including action plan. The system converts qualitative response to quantitative result and prioritize the action plans to take.

The person skilled in the art would easily conceive the idea of employing the conversion feature of increasing or decrease the evaluation value of the action based on the responses for the prioritization.

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A system for preparing a report containing actions for achieving one or more themes, comprising:

5 a first database for storing one or more check items for reviewing achievement of each theme, one or more check result indications given to respective check items by an acting department, a plurality of actions for achieving said one or more themes, and evaluation values given to respective actions indicating the degree of effectiveness of respective actions;

10 a second database for storing past reports containing past themes and the actions used for achieving the past themes; and

a computer for preparing the report, the computer being programmed to,
compare the theme corresponding to a check item to which an badness indication has been given by the current review with a theme contained in the past
15 reports, and if they match, decrease the evaluation value of the action for achieving the matched theme, and if no match is made, increase the evaluation value of the action for achieving the theme contained in the past reports;

select from said first database an action having a high evaluation value among all the actions that relate to check items carrying check result indications needing
20 actions; and

prepare a current report containing one or more selected actions and one or more themes corresponding to a check item carrying a check result indication needing action.

25 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a third database for storing one or more identifications of acting departments that have evaluated the check items; and

30 an input device for inputting an identification of an acting department,

wherein the computer is programmed to prepare a current report containing the themes corresponding to the check items reviewed by the acting department.

4. (Amended) A system for preparing a report containing actions for achieving one
5 or more themes, comprising:

a first database for storing one or more check items for reviewing achievement of each theme, one or more check result indications given to respective check items by an acting department, a plurality of actions for achieving said one or more themes, and evaluation values given to respective actions indicating the degree of effectiveness of
10 respective actions;

a second database for storing past reports containing past themes and the actions used for achieving the past themes, said second database further storing one or more past badness values with respect to respective themes; and

a computer for preparing the report, the computer being programmed to,
15 determine badness values for a theme based on the number of check result indications given to the check item in the current review;

compare the current badness value with corresponding past badness value;

increase the evaluation value of the action for achieving the past theme if the current badness value is smaller than the past badness value;

20 decrease the evaluation value of the action for achieving the past theme if the current badness value is larger than the past badness value

select an action having a high evaluation value among all the actions that relate to check items carrying check result indications needing actions; and

prepare a current report containing one or more selected actions and one or
25 more themes corresponding to a check item carrying a check result indication needing action.

5. (Amended) A system according to claim 4, further comprising:

a third database for storing one or more identifications of supervisory
30 departments for managing check items; and

an input device for inputting the supervisory department,

wherein the computer is programmed to prepare a current report containing one or more themes relating to the check items managed by the supervisory department, said themes selected from the themes corresponding to the check items carrying badness indications.

5

6. (Amended) A computer implemented method for preparing a report containing actions for achieving one or more themes, comprising:

storing in a first database one or more check items for reviewing achievement of each theme, one or more check result indications given to respective check items by an acting department, a plurality of actions for achieving said one or more themes, and evaluation values given to respective actions indicating the degree of effectiveness of respective actions;

storing in a second database past reports containing past themes and the actions used for achieving the past themes; and

15 comparing the theme corresponding to a check item to which an badness indication has been given by the current review with a theme contained in the past reports, and if they match, decrease the evaluation value of the action for achieving the matched theme, and if no match is made, increase the evaluation value of the action for achieving the theme contained in the past reports;

20 selecting from said first database an action having a high evaluation value among all the actions that relate to check items carrying check result indications needing actions; and

preparing a current report containing one or more selected actions and one or more themes corresponding to a check item carrying a check result indication needing action.

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7. (Cancelled)

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 6, further comprising:

30 storing in a third database one or more identifications of acting departments that have evaluated the check items; and

responsive to entry of identification of an acting department, preparing a current report containing the themes corresponding to the check items reviewed by the acting department.

5 9. (Amended) A computer implemented method for preparing a report containing actions for achieving one or more themes, comprising:

storing in a first database one or more check items for reviewing achievement of each theme, one or more check result indications given to respective check items by an acting department, a plurality of actions for achieving said one or more themes, and
10 evaluation values given to respective actions indicating the degree of effectiveness of respective actions;

storing in a second database past reports containing past themes, the actions used for achieving the past themes, and one or more past badness values with respect to respective themes,

15 determining badness values for a theme based on the number of check result indications given to the check item in the current review;

comparing the current badness value with corresponding past badness value;

increasing the evaluation value of the action for achieving the past theme if the current badness value is smaller than the past badness value; and

20 decreasing the evaluation value of the action for achieving the past theme if the current badness value is larger than the past badness value;

selecting an action having a high evaluation value among all the actions related to the check items carrying the check result indications needing actions; and

preparing a current report containing one or more selected actions and one or
25 more themes corresponding to a check item carrying a check result indication needing action.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

storing one or more identifications of acting departments that have evaluated
30 the check items; and

responsive to entry of an identification of an acting department, preparing a current report containing the themes corresponding to the check items reviewed by the acting department.